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Attorney Docket: 4208-4012

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Salmenkaita et al.

Group Art Unit: 2176

Serial No.: 09/854,635

Examiner: Abel Jalil, Neveen

Filed: May 15, 2001

For: METHOD AND BUSINESS PROCESS TO MAINTAIN PRIVACY IN
DISTRIBUTED RECOMMENDATION SYSTEMS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop: **RCE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment, filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) as a submission under 37 CFR § 1.114 and Petition And Fee For Extension Of Time (37 C.F.R. § 1.126(a)). Entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to continued examination on the merits is respectfully requested. For the Examiner's convenience, the amendment includes:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2;

Remarks including a Summary begin on page 16; and

Deposit Account Authorization on page 27.